

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: EB/ITP/EWT:HJBEMIS

APPROVED BY: EB/ITP/EWT:HJBEMIS

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R 292008Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 6866

USDEL MTN GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 022509

FOLLOWING REPEAT WARSAW 437 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 23 JAN

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0437

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, PL

SUBJECT: POLISH FOREIGN TRADE CONTROL MECHANISMS

REF WARSAW 0397

1. MR. JAN BRUKSZO, VICE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MACHINE TRADE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND MARITIME ECONOMY, GAVE EMBASSY OFFICIALS THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION OF POLAND'S PLANS FOR CONTROLLING THE DIRECTION OF FOREIGN TRADE AND THE ROLE OF THE NEW TARIFF.

2. THE NEW POLICY WILL GIVE ADDED AUTHORITY FOR FOREIGN-TRADE DECISIONS TO BOTH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND THE PRODUCING UNITS. THE MINISTRY WILL GAIN INCREASED CONTROL OVER POLISH IMPORTS BY MEANS OF A STRENGTHENED IMPORT-LICENSING PROCEDURE. IN THE PAST, IMPORT LICENSES COULD BE OBTAINED ALMOST AUTOMATICALLY FROM THE  
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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE ONCE THE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL

DECISIONS HAD BEEN MADE BY THE END-USER, THE FTO (AND PERHAPS ITS PARENT MINISTRY), AND THE FOREIGN-TRADE BANK. IN THE FUTURE, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE WILL CAREFULLY REVIEW THE PROPOSED SOURCE OF THE IMPORT AND THE FOREIGN-TRADE PERFORMANCE OF THE END-USER. IN THIS REGARD, BRUKSZO NOTED THAT FOREIGN-TRADING UNITS WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIV TARGET FIGURES FOR EXPORTS, IMPORTS, AND BALANCE, BUT BALANCE WILL BE THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THE THREE IN THE FUTURE. IF AN END-USER IS NOT MEETING ITS TARGET FOR TRADE BALANCE, THE IMPORT LICENSE WILL BE DENIED.

3. BRUKSZO MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE WOULD CONTROL IMPORTS VERY CLOSELY, WHILE THE INDUSTRAIL MINISTRIES AND ENTERPRISES WOULD BE GIVEN MORE DISCRETION IN PLANNING EXPORTS, ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD STILL BE REQUIRED TO MEET THE TARGET FIGURES FOR EXPORT AND BALANCE.

4. BRUKSZO SAID THAT THE POLISH TARIFF IS NOT EXPECTED TO INFLUENCE FOREIGN-TRADE DECISIONS DURING THE NEXT FEW YEARS. FOR SOME INDEFINITE PERIOD, THE FTO'S WILL BE REIMBURSED BY THEIR PARENT MINISTRIES FOR ANY TARIFFS THEY PAY.

5. BRUKSZO ANTICIPATES THAT ADDITIONAL CHANGES IN THE FOREIGN-TRADE CONTROL MECHANISM WILL BE ANNOUNCED WITHIN A WEEK. WE WILL REPORT ANY SUCH ANNOUNCEMENTS.  
UNQTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFORMATION CONTROL, TRADE CONTROLS, TARIFFS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE022509  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EB/ITP/EWT:HJBEMIS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 WARSAW 397  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <26 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POLISH FOREIGN TRADE CONTROL MECHANISMS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, PL, (BRUKSZO, JAN)  
**To:** GENEVA MTN GENEVA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006